



MIAMI COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

MIAMI COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015 1:00 P.M.

GAR ROOM–MIAMI COUNTY COURTHOUSE

MINUTES

The Miami County Solid Waste District held a meeting of the Board of Directors on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 1:00 P.M. in the GAR Room in the Miami County Courthouse, located at 25 North Broadway, Peru, Indiana.

Attending:

Board Members: Don Morris–Chairman–Town of Converse, Larry West–member–County Commissioner, Joshua Francis–member–County Commissioner, Jerry Hamman–member–County Commissioner, Tom Gustin–member–Peru City Council.

Staff Attending: Samantha Ward–Executive Director, Carla Weaver–Assistant Director/Recording Secretary.

Others: Bobbie Dausch–Contractor for the District, Ron Dausch–Contractor for the District, Mike Rorvik–Contractor for the District, Scott Shepherd–Local Realtor.

Absent: Jim Walker–Mayor of Peru, Shirley Mull– Miami County Council Member, Pat Roberts–Legal Counsel.

Call to Order: Chairman Don Morris called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M.

Approval of Minutes:

- Board members reviewed the meeting minutes from the December 15, 2014 Board of Directors meeting. *Mr. Gustin motioned to approve the meeting minutes; Mr. West seconded. Motion carried (5–0).*

Approval of Financial Report and Claims:

- There was no discussion of Claims. *Mr. Gustin motioned to approve the financial report and claims received by email; Mr. West seconded. Motion carried (5–0).*

Election of 2015 Officers

- *Mr. Gustin moved to retain Don Morris as Board Chairman, Mr. West seconded. Motion carried (5-0). Mr. Morris accepted the Chairmanship by acclamation.*
- *Mr. Gustin moved to retain Larry West as Vice-Chairman, Mr. Morris seconded. Motion carried (5-0).*
- Mr. Morris questioned whether he was allowed to vote on motions made during meetings as chairman. He stated that he has discussed this with Mr. Roberts, and as a representative for the town of Converse, he is allowed one vote. In the event of a tie, Mr. Morris is allowed a second vote as board chairman.

Appoint Legal Counsel and Financial Services (Comptroller)

- *Mr. Gustin motioned to retain the current Legal and Financial services of Roberts Law Firm and Comerford and Company CPA for the respective duties; Mr. West seconded. Motion carried (6-0).*

Director's Report

- Ms. Ward told the board she is in the process of finishing the state required year end reporting. Solid Waste Districts are required to file the same reports as all county agencies. In addition to those reports, districts are also required to file another report to meet the requirements of SB 131.
- Ms. Ward informed the board that she was recently re-elected to the position of Secretary for the Northern Indiana Recycling Initiative. Ms. Ward has held this position for the past six years and is pleased to continue.

Lawyer's Report

- Mr. Roberts is on vacation. There is no lawyer's report.

Building Committee Report

- The board gave Don permission to pursue purchasing an existing structure for the district. The two properties being discussed were the Camper's Choice building, and the building owned by Steve Hicks on Logansport Road. As of the meeting, there has been no action on the Camper's Choice property. Discussion followed about various inspections to be sure the property is in compliance with all safety and environmental codes. Mr. Hicks does not have a completed Phase One study.
- Mr. Shepherd told the board that the existing building is built to higher standards and includes geothermal furnace, infrared heating and R-50 insulation. The property is also partially fenced. More discussion followed concerning the asking price for the property.

- The committee is attempting to contact the various agencies regarding who needs to inspect the property and sign off on any plans for us to purchase. *Mr. Gustin moved to make another offer contingent on the sales contract, inspections, and the approval of the contract by Pat Roberts. Mr. Hamman seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).*

Old Business

- The proposal for the “White Goods” pick up program was discussed. Ms. Ward and Mr. Morris met with Pat Roberts to go over the proposal received from R & B Contracting. Mr. Roberts sent a letter to the board containing his review of the proposal. Mr. Morris read the letter to the board. Mr. Roberts had several questions and concerns, both for the proposal and the program in general. The program itself has turned into a “heavy trash” pickup program with a few true white good items picked up on occasion. The State mandate that required the counties to have a Solid Waste District states the program is to promote recycling, assist with proper tire and chemical disposal, and to divert items from landfill disposal. As the program is currently operating per the wishes of the district board, nearly 80% of what is being picked up is neither a true white good item, and is considered to be heavy trash. Mr. Roberts also questioned the form of the proposal, as the instructions state to propose a flat amount to be paid monthly, OR a price to be paid per pickup. R & B Contracting’s proposal contained both a flat amount AND a per pickup fee.
- Mr. Morris is concerned that the State Board of Accounts will penalize the district for using the assessments from the county taxpayers for a trash program. Ms. Ward stated she has brought this to the attention of the board several times over the past three years. Mr. Francis stated he believes that picking up the heavy trash items and sending them to the landfill is still a part of recycling that beautifies the earth, and the program should be continued as is. Ms. Ward reminded the board that the state has passed a new law setting a goal of reducing the amount of trash sent to the landfill by 50%. This goal includes Solid Waste Recycling Districts. Ms. Ward was concerned that the goal would not be met in Miami County if the district continued to dispose of heavy trash.
- Roadside dumps were another concern. There is nothing in the state statute specifying that Solid Waste Districts are responsible for cleaning up roadside dumps and/or illegal dumping. Mr. Hamman stated that there should be a written ordinance in place for turning in people who dump items with a reward for reporting them. Mr. Francis requested that the updated five year

plan include provisions for the Miami County Solid Waste Recycling District to continue cleaning up items dumped along the road. Mr. Francis stated the district should use some of the money from the yearly assessments to pick up heavy trash items. *Mr. Francis motioned to update the five year district plan to include cleaning up illegal dumping; Mr. Gustin seconded. Motion carried 4-1 with Mr. Morris casting the opposing vote.*

- *Mr. Francis motioned to accept the proposal for White Goods pickup from R & B Contracting; Mr. Gustin seconded. Motion carried 4-1 with Mr. Morris casting the opposing vote.*
- Ms. Ward questioned whether individuals and especially businesses using the service multiple times for disposal of their trash. Ms. Ward asked to change the name of the pickup program to something that reflects what we are currently picking up. Ms. Ward and Mr. West will work together to make adjustments to programs and wording for the informational flyers that will be included with the bills this year.

New Business

- There was no new business.

Public Comment

- There was no public comment.

Next Board Meeting:

- **BOARD OF DIRECTORS– TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015 at 1:00 P.M. GAR ROOM–MIAMI COUNTY COURTHOUSE.**

Adjournment: *Adjournment was unanimous.*

Carla Weaver, Recording Secretary

Don Morris, Board Chairman